THE BELGICK SOVLDIER:

VVARRE VVAS A BLESSING.

2. CHRON. 33. 7.

Be ſtrong and couragious: feare not, neither be afraid for the King of Aſſhur, *neither for all the multitude that is with him: for there be mo with vs, then is with him.*

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THE BELGICK SOVLDIER: VVarre was a Bleſſing.

VVHen *Athanatius* oppoſed the multitude of *Arrian* Biſhops, it ſeemed ſo dangerous to the eſtabliſhed gouernment of the Empire, that his caſtigation was threatned by expulſion or feare; Yea *Liberius* that tooke his part, was checked by the Emperours owne letters for affecting the opinion of that wicked man; But when againe his faire demeanour and religious conſtancy drew away the veile of ſuperſtition, ignorance, and hereſie: whereby the Emperours eyes were opened to reioyce in the ſunny ſplendor of truth; *Conſtantine* admitted him within his embraces: and all thoſe adherents of *Arrius* were confounded by their owne wilfulnes.

Thus hath it fared with all innouations; yea, Chriſt himſelfe was ſubiect to traducing, for aboliſhing thoſe ceremonies on which the Iewes were beſotted, for propheſing againſt that Temple, about which the Prieſts were ſo puſſled, and for preaching

the doctrine of ſaluation, againſt which the peop'e were ſo enraged; and yet in the end, they that were not credulous of his doctrine and miracles when he was aliue, beleeued a few Fiſher-mens reports after he was dead.

Thus muſt I needs incurre the diſpleaſure of time ſeruers, the ſcoffs and diriſion of Papiſts, and the repining of Hiſpanoliſed Engliſh, when I goe about to proue, that warre hath beene better then peace, and the Common-wealth and religion of *England*, haue had their fame and propagation by oppoſing Anti-chriſt, and in plaine termes, muſt recouer her eclipſed proſperitie reputing *Spaine* our oppoſite. Concerning whom, let me remember what is reported of *Cæſar*, who hearing of the death of a Roman Souldier that had liued merrily and ſecurely, yet dyed greatly in debt and mens dangers: he deſired to buy his bed and pillow, deeming ſome rare vertue to be therein, whereon a man could ſleepe ſo ſoundly that liued in ſo manifeſt trouble. So though I deſire no pillow nor bed from vnder the King of *Spaine*: yet with *Cæſar* I proteſt, there is ſome wonder of nature belongs to him, that can ſleepe at all, hauing ſo many encombrances to wraſtle with, and intricate ſedgy weedes of diſturbances to winde out of.

For euer ſince *Phillip* the ſeconds marriage with *England*, and that the ambitious humor in being an Emperours ſonne, ſwelled beyond the degrees of compariſon with other Princes: how hath *Spaine* beſtird himſelfe to the affrighting of *Europe*, and moued of purpoſe out of his owne faire and ſerend element, to looke on his neighbours with retrograde aſpects

aſpects in contrarious orbes: ſo that other Kings may demaund, what hath *Spaine* to do in moſt of the Prouinces of *Europe*: which at this inſtant toucheth *France* and *England* ſo neere, that they had need deale with him; as *Henry* the 8 did of famous memory.

At firſt by reaſon of conſanguinity (yet perſonall mariages doe not rule Princes affaires,) he ioyned with the Emperour againſt *France*, and by his anxiliary forces *Charles* the 5 not onely expulſed the *French* out of *Italy*, but at laſt ſacked *Rome*, and tooke the Pope and his Cardinalls priſoners; as he had done the *French* King at the battell of *Pauy*; but as he was running away with theſe aduantages, King *Henry* looked about him, and entertained a kinde of ielouſie againſt his greatneſſe, as ſuſpecting what an ambitious conquerour might effect: whereupon by degrees he retracted, ſuppoſing it high time to rebate his inſolency, and lay as it were a cooling card vpon his forwardneſſe. So not onely the *French* King was releiued, but Pope *Clement* ranſomed.

If it be thus, and that there is a kinde of polliticall neceſſitie among Princes to watch the affaires of one another; I hope it is now time to looke vpon *Spaines* intruſions, and not onely prouide for our ſelues, but releeue our neighbours, leaſt we haue more dangerous neighbours, then we either deſire, or ſhall be able to preuent. But if we be ſenſible of preſent loſſes, wrongs, diſgraces, affronts, and intollerable indignities, let vs rouſe vp our ſelues, and redeeme our loſt time with quick and ſeaſonable remedies: and if peace haue abuſed vs, let warre a Gods name repaire our credits, and reſtore our decay. There is

no poiſon againſt nature, but may be countermanded by an antidote; Yea, it is an axiome in Philoſophy, that preuenting Phiſicke is better then curing; and the law of preſeruation is incident to all creatures.

But heere me thinkes, ſome couetuous wretch, churliſh Farmer, ſcurrulous Lawyer, or temporiſing paraſite may interiect theſe doubts. 1. Whether we haue ſufficient occaſion or no, to fall out with *Spaine*. 2. How ſhall a warre be maintained. 3. Where the ſeate of this warre ſhall be. 4. Who ſhall be called to our aſſiſtance. 5. And laſt of all, Whether the Countrey be willing and able to ſuch a deſignement. To all which I anſwer directly, the State, or Councell of warre muſt deſide theſe things. For as it is in Martiall affaires, let the Generall be neuer ſo wiſe, and the Commanders neuer ſo valiant: yet when proiects of conſequence are propoſed, a Martiall Court is called, and an orderly debating the matter concludeth for the beſt. So I referre this buſines to the directer of princes hearts, and the inſtrumentall cauſe of a countries proſperity, & wiſe councellors. And I pray all true hearted Engliſhmen, let this my diſcourſe diſcouer my good intents; as for other difficulties, I referre them to good ſucceſſe. But becauſe mony is the ſinews of the war, and that hereat is our ſtop and repining, I anſwer the obiector. Why ſhould we be more vnfortunate now, then we haue beene? the warre hath brought vs in treaſure: and why ſhould we now diſpaire, or terrefie one another with ſuſpition, or diſhartning queſtions. When the Scripture tells vs, that if *Dauid* will be ruled by *Ioab*, and come to the taking of *Rabbah*, the Kings Crowne

Crowne ſhall be ſet on his head, which weighed a tallent of gold, full of precious ſtones: beſides the ſpoile of the Citty, which was in exceeding great aboundance. As for the deceites of peace, and thoſe bewitching flatteries of pollitick inſinnuation; let it be the *Spaniard*, or whom it will, we muſt not truſt either a reconciled enemy, or a diſſembling friend.

But to come to the purpoſe, and ſome illuſtration in the defence of warre; He that pleaded for peace, *Tully* himſelfe I meane, and cryed out in an inſulting brauery: that the armed caſſocks muſt giue way to the Senators gownes, yet ſaies plainely: that warrs may be vndertaken either for the propulſing of iniuries, or procuring of peace, not ſo much to giue way to reuenge, as to keepe other princes in a good opinion, that we know what is wrong, and when it is time to redreſſe iniuries. I could ſay, that warre ſometimes may be vndertaken for enlarging Dominions. As *Salomon* made all his neighbour Prouinces tributary vnto him, and ſo he ruled from *Euphrates* to *Sidon*, and the *Mediterranean* Sea. I could alledge that all the famouſſeſt Common-wealths in the world, haue augmented their territories by the actiue imployment of Heroick ſpirits, and receiued a fulneſſe of wealth and renowne from the raging Sea of turbulency and warre. I could produce examples of Scripture, to proue directly that *Daniels* Monarchies ſucceeded one another by the preuailing of mighty armies, and the ſtronger eues ſhouldred aſide the weaker. I could adde, that the corruptions of peace in all ages, haue like ſtanding pooles increaſed durt and ſlime; that is, pleaſures and impieties:

which

which haue growne to that outragiousnesse, that men haue forgot their first benefactor, and with a luciferion rebellion continually defied God in his Maiesty, liuing as if we should neuer die, and dying as if there were no after account to be made; And yet we dote on peace. And I am afraid, will rather lep on shore to be destroyed by the incantations of the daughters of *Achelous*, then tie our selues to the mast of *Vlisses* ship, to be secured from the temptation.

But I purpose no such discourses, onely a small encheridion, to proue that warre was a blessing, and hath beene allowed from heauen: and that a corrupted peace hath increased sinnes, and sin brought Gods vengeance vpon such tainted Kingdomes. There was a warre in *Rebeccas* wombe betweene her children: and *Iacobs* blessings proceeded from wrastling with God. There was a warre in deliuering the Church out of bondage, or else *Israel* had beene still moyling in the brick-kills of *Egipt*, but at last *Canaan* was subiected, and Gods people made glorious for euer. It was a warre that charactered *Salomon* the Prince of peace: or else why are *Dauids* worthies, and their actions set downe by name. It was a warre that finished *Octauius* troubles, and surnamed him *Augustus*. And in many places you shall reade, that God did fight from heauen against his peoples enemies; What shall warre come from heauen, and shall we be afraid of it on earth: God forbid. Considering that in the times of peace, when the warres had set the people of *Israel* downe in the chaire of tranquillity, euen then forgat they both God and themselues, stretching out their limbs on beds of iuory,

iuory, carowsing in goblets of gold, and killing the fat lambs of the flocke: but no man remembred the affliction of *Ioseph*; may I not well then conclude, that warre was a blessing. And thus much for warre before Christ.

Now you shall see what warre and peace haue both done, since Christianity tooke a fairer progresse, and God had determined that his Church should florish through the dissention of the Nations; For although by the first persecutions it had a feareful dishartning, and by the augmentation the pompous Papacy, a more fearefull suppression and martirdome: yet such was the will of God. That as *Siria*, *Edom*, *Moab*, *Egipt*, and the Iland *Gentiles*, one were their owne enemies, and Gods instruments to destroy one another. So in the beginning of Christianity, the barbarous nations that possessed *Europe*, although they made themselues fortunate by the warres: yet in the end they consumed themselues; and from their ruines the Popes of *Rome* became great, and from their greatnesse, through the swelling prosperity of peace, the true Church of God by little and little dispelled the clouds of their contempt, and deiected: and so at last obtained that faire sunshine, which is now so transplatent.

Some 300 yeere after Christ, or there about, you shall reade that in *Goteland*, and those northen regions now called *Finmarck*, *Norway* and *Sweden*, the peace had so multiplied the people, and those remote healthfull Countries affoorded them so long liues, that they could not liue one by another: so that the aged, impotent, and beggers swarmed in euery place;

at which time one *Sienio* was the principall Monarch, who called a councell to redreſſe theſe inconueniences, and they concluded to take them all that were ſo vnprofitable to the Common-wealth, and tying them backe to backe, throw them into the ſea. But when the Queene whoſe name was *Iuditha*, heard of ſo cruell and vnmercifull a doome, ſhe could not containe her ſelfe, but at the Kings returne kneeled before him, deſiring to haue it reuerſed: for ſhe had found a better way of preuention and effect of charitie: which was to ſhip the people, and let them try their fortune in other places: which was both nobly apprehended, and effectually practiſed; and ſo in proceſſe of time they poſſeſſed thoſe Countries which you now call *Seruia*, *Bulgaria*, *Moldunia*, *Podolia*: and at laſt became famous Nations of *Gotes* and *Lombards*, infeſting *Italy* and *Spaine*, and diſpoſſeſſing the Emperours, who had called them into their ſuccours; thus the warres made them famous, till by the warres of Chriſtian Emperours they were diſpelled and extirped againe. Afterward the *Othoman* family, comming out of that Countrey you once called *Scithia*, augmented their reputation by the warres of *Aſia*. So did *Tamberlaine* conquer *Perſia*, and claimed renowne to his Actions by famous battell. So did the *Turks* come into *Europe*. And all the beggerly Nations of the world became rich and potent by raiſing of warre, and were diminiſhed and conſumed to nothing by the corruption of peace, and bewitching of pleaſure.

Thus receiued the Papacy the fulneſſe of her progreſſion by the warres of the Countries, eſpecially

especially after the *German* Eagle had affoorded her some feathers of her wings: then tooke she a flight beyond reach, and at last stradles ouer *Rome*, making *Rome* haue roome of precidency before other Kingdomes. So that I may well say, the barren soile of their potency was watred and manured with the blood of Souldiers, as the Prouinces of *Europe* gathered together the scattered bodies of *Pelops*, and made a more perfect body then the first. Thus did the Popes florish by forreigne warres, and setting Emperours on worke to destroy one another.

But now what became of their owne peace and established greatnesse? they fell to pride, gurmundize, and riot, they supplanted one another, they proued incendiaries to Christendome, they intertained newmantict spells, with diuelish and exoptick Artes: they practised murther, whoredome and incests, they deposed one another, they attempted the humiliation of Emperours, and made a sport at the inauguration of Kings and Princes, as if it lay in their power with a Prophets hand, to tumble aside their fastest Diadems. In a word, they grew proud with peace and plenty, and as warre had caused their greatnesse, they caused their sinnes to be more great through the corruption of prosperity: so that from mortified Preachers and Ministers of Gods word, they grow Statists, and diuelish Pollititians: then from Schollers, they proued proficients in Villanie; raysing Quarrells against Princes,

and exciting Princes one againſt another; So that I may well ſay according to their owne computation, that warre was a bleſſing. And if the Nations had maintained their priſtinate quietneſſe and idolatry, they had neuer floriſhed in ſuch outward brauery, and viſibility as they now boaſt of. And thus you ſee how the warres haue beene beneficiall to the Papacy.

Now it remaines to proue, how the true Church of God hath receiued her beſt floriſhes by warres; It is but ſuperfluous to repeate what other men haue written in the defence of our Church, prouing directly, that from the Primitiue Church to this houre, God euer had a remnant of people: and in moſt Countries there were ſuch as profeſſed the truth in deſpight of fire. But I referre you to the Hiſtory of the Church, and other learned tractate compoſed by religious men.

I come to the dayes of *wickliffe*, after whom followed the *Bohemian* warres: whith were the firſt apparant warres for the Goſpell that I reade of. For the great *Ziſca* proued a conqueror; and although *John Huſs*, and *Hierome* of *Prague* ſacrificed themſelues, and were expoſed to the fire for Chriſts ſake; which might haue deterred men from taking their parts, and profeſſing the truth: yet did the Goſpell increaſe ouer *Europe*, and the warres taught thouſands of people a ſong of conſtancy: and a burning zeale made their hands fight for the liberty of their conſciences.

But when *Luther* came to act his part, the warres of *Germany* made way to the peace of the Proteſtants;

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And as you reade of many, that hearing *Plates* discourse of the immortallity of the soule, longed for the same, and wished, yea, procured to die. So whole multitudes exposed themselues to torture for Christs sake: and as the warres and persecutions augmented their punishments, they augmented their ioy for being so persecuted, and tooke a pleasure in the displeasure of princes against them for Gods sake. *France* became a rare president, and very quickly the Protestants multiplied so fast: that with the Iewes they forgat the ceremonies of the Saboth, and applied the Law of preservation, whereby nature taught them to take vp Armes in their owne defences; then stood *Geneua* on their guard: then *Denmarke*, *Norway*, *Sweden*, *England*, *Scotland*, and diuers Ilands and Townes from being slaues to the conclaue of Cardinalls, sent defiance to *Rome*, and breake the yoakes of their captiuity: from impouerishing their Countrie, enriching their owne treasures, to the augmentation of the dignity of Common-wealths: from prostituting their wiues and daughters to the libidinous lusts of Priests clensed themselues with the water of chastety, and tooke a pleasure in vndefiled beds: from the terror of the Cardinalls, and thundring of excommunication, they went with peace and contrition of soule to Gods alter, obtaining so remission of sinnes, and assurance of saluation. So that I may well say, the hand that stretched to pul the Prophet by the throat, is whithered and dried vp: yea, except the Prophet pray to God, *Ieroboham* shall not recouer, not be able to lift it vp againe. If it be thus, was not warre a blessing: and hath not Religion beene propagated

by that meanes.

But becauſe you looke for more moderne particulars, let vs come neerer home, and obſerue how Religion hath proſpered, and the Nations bin enriched by the warres and contentions with *Spaine*, *Auſtria*, and the Papacy, 1. in *Germany*, 2. *France*, 3. the *Low Countries*, 4. and *England* it ſelfe: and how peace, or if you will diſſembling contracts of peace, haue abuſed vs at all times.

Concerning *Germany* and the Empire; when *Carolus quintus* perceiued the ſunny ſplendor of Proteſtantiſme to be more and more radiant, for all he had interpoſed divers clouds and miſty vapours, and became ſuſpitious of ſundry Princes greatneſſe, after the Duke of *Saxonies* protecting of *Luther*, as obſeruing that the warres would not onely make them factious, which appeared by the impriſonment of the *Lantſgraue* of *Heſſe*, but teach them a way both of defence and oppoſition; he tooke another courſe to corroborate his owne greatneſſe, and extenuate the ſtrength of Religion, and this was by making a peace, and withdrawing himſelfe from the troubleſomneſſe of State: wherein, as it often happeneth with cowardly polliticians, who by ſeeking to hide their feare, diſcouer more the ſame. So played this Emperour, after many famous exploits and flatteries of fortune, he made the *Germaines* beleeue he was ſo indulgent ouer the Common-wealth, that he would affright or trouble them no further, but leaue them in peace and libertie of conſcience: when yet they knew he departed in a rage, as diſappointed in his pretences, that he could

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not incorporate the Empire to his Family. Vnderſtand then, that in his latter times he had ſome checks, and his peace ſhewed not ſo beautifull a face as his warres. So that he plainely ſaw, that if other blocks and hindrances were not caſt into the ſmoother walke, to hinder Religion from her handſome progreſſe, and debarre the Proteſtant Princes from vniting, the Maieſty of *Auſtria* would be diminiſhed, and their potencie fruſtrated; yea his owne renowne obſcured with malignitie of time, and cloudy threatnings of a fatall end; which though it came not to ſuch a miſery as *Pompeys* loſing his head: yet might proue as bitter a receit as *Scipios* confining himſelfe to a countrey grange, who had in his life obtained the ſurname of *Africanus*, and in his actions the renowne of a remarkable vertue. All which came to paſſe in the harueſt of this Emperours huſbandry. So that now you ſhall haue ſome particulars concerning his diſcontents and obſeruations, which he himſelfe propoſed for the eſtabliſhing the houſe of *Auſtria* in the Empire.

Touching his diſcontents; Firſt, Though he kept correſpondency with the Duke of *Saxons* humors, yet he much repined at his audaciouſneſſe, that durſt maintaine a Frier againſt the Pope and himſelfe, as by *Luthers* comming to *Wormes* was apparant. Secondly, It amazed him to ſee a greater neglect of the princes towards him (for all the uniting of *Spaine*, *Burgundy*, and *Auſtria*) then was before, and that the declaring himſelfe an eneny to the Proteſtants, declared them the firme friends of the Goſpell of Ieſus Chriſt. Thirdly, Hee thought there was no

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proceedings in the high projects of *Germany*. For questionlesse King *Henry* of England would take the Protestants parts, and prouide that the Empire should be still Elective. Fourthly, That when the Princes had denied the Diadem, and investure to *Phillip* his sonne, as discovering that he went about to make it hereditary, and so kept all *Europe* in awe by his treasure and dominions, he stomacked their repugnancy, and would peraduenture haue threatned, if his power had kept correspondency with his willingnesse to reuenge. Fiftly. That when the Pope and the conclaue of Cardinalls would by no meanes consent, to haue him sit in such a chaire of greatnesse, as *Spaine*, the *Indies*, the *Empire*, and the *Low Countries*; he wreaked his rage from *Rome*; and *Burbon* in his behalfe sacked the Citty, imprisoned the Prelates, and set the Pope at a ransome; whereupon followed the excommunication both of himselfe and *Phillip* his sonne, and the election of his yong brother *Ferdinand* Emperour; all which augmented his discontents. Sixtly, That hauing heard of the losse of his Nauy at *Algier*, he suspected a change of fortune, and grew so disquieted and melancholy, that comming to *Millaine*, he forgat the state of an Emperour, and they forgat the duty of obseruation; For when the people perceiued that he was careless to satisfie their expectation, they were as careless to gratifie or glorifie him as a Magnificent prince; for in the Citty they left him all alone in his blacke Spanish cape cloake, and would not attend him downe to his Gallies. Last of all, Comming into *Spaine*, he found the Clergie humorous against him for his ransom.

ranſomming Pope *Clement*, and other contumaces a-gainſt the Church: whereupon perceiuiug his peace to thriue worſe then his warres, he left all his honors to his ſonne and brother, and retired himſelfe to the Monaſtrey of Saint *Laurance*, or *Eſcuriall*: where within three yeares he finiſhed his life: and yet he liued to ſay, that warre was to him a bleſſing, farre beyond his peace.

2. Touching thoſe fruits of pollicy, it is well knowne. Firſt, That he not onely proiected himſelfe, but inſtructed his ſonne *Phillip* to make the Empire hereditary to the houſe of *Auſtria*, and all *Europe* to depend vpon *Spaines* Monarchy; as by the ſubſequent actions of King *Phillip* was apparant. Secondly, That *Ferdinando* Emperour, be eſpecially carefull to firme and contract vnto himſelfe by one meanes or other (eſpecially conſanguinity) the King of *Poland*, *Saxony*, and *Bauaria*: as within ſhort time after came to paſſe. Thirdly, That of all other things a peace be ratefied with the Gran Signeur, and correſpondency kept betweene them. Fourthly, That a iealous eye be had ouer *Prague*, *Preſburg*, and *Glatz*. For *Prague* was the abſolute commander of *Bohemia*: and the Prouinces durſt not ſtart, if the other Citties were Gariſond with Spaniards. Fiftly, That the Ieſuites be countenanced in their deſignes; For although the Pope and conclaue of Cardinalls might repine at their intruſion, and intermedling with matters of State: yet by their meanes, and ſanctified religious deuotion, ſuch buſineſſes might be effected, as ſhould euer tend to the augmentation of *Spaines* greatneſſe. Sixtly, That an Im-

periall faction be ever nouriſhed in *Luſatia*, *Sileſia*, and *Morauia*: eſpecially that the Catholick Biſhops be maintained in the ſuppreſſion of the Proteſtants: who elſe will follow the former Bohemians, in taking vp Armes againſt their Princes; and therefore the ſafeſt way were, to diſarme them by one meanes or other. Seuenthly, That the Gouernour of *Millaine* in his due time labour to get a footing in *Switzerland*, by building ſome fort or fortreſſe to ſecure the paſſages: that ſo the Armies in *Italy* might march in peace, or without preiudice ouer the *Alpes* into *Germany*. Laſt of all, That the *Grizons* eſcape not without viſitation, although it coſt pentions, reward, and flattery; and if the protectors, which muſt be either Imperiall or French, name it an intruſion: meanes muſt be wrought, that neither of both haue leiſure to preuent it.

Thus ended this great Proiector his dayes; but then began his Family: their Phaetons floriſh of mightineſſe, which queſtionleſſe had runne ouer the bancks of *Europe* like an inundation, had not that miror of mankinde, (I meane Queene *Elizabeth*) with the States of *Holland*, kept King *Phillip* and his ſonne play 50. yeares at leaſt; whereby they were hindred from either ſending forces into *Germany*; or growing to faſt, like broade ſpredding burrs, which are not onely noyſome in themſelues, but ſpoile the ſweeter graſſe which neighbours them. Notwithſtanding *Ferdinando*, *Rodulphus*, and *Mathias*, proceed in the affaires of the Empire, with the former cautions, and outward lenatiue courſes, laying aſide all forcible Armes, and imperious ouerruling the Princes: where-

by

by in leſſe then forty yeares many things are effected, tending to combuſtion of gouernment, and ouerthrow of true religion: which may be contracted to theſe heads, and ſerue to proue, that *Warre was a bleſſing*: and peace a meere enemy to their proceedings.

Firſt, Certaine marriages augment the inceſts of *Spaine*, and reconcile *Poland* and *Saxony* to the houſe of *Auſtria*. Secondly, Vnder the colour of ſecuring the confines of *Hungary* and *Poland*, againſt the incurſions of the *Turke*, Spaniſh Gariſons are admitted into *Rab*, *Camera*, *Presburge*, *Camiſia*, *Glatz*, *Vienna*, and *Prague* it ſelfe. Thirdly, The free Cities of *Germany* put vp a 100 grieuances againſt the Papiſts, and neuer deſiſted, vntill they had obtained their owne manuſtions, to haue the excerciſe of religion. Fourthly, The Proteſtants increaſing both in *Prague* and *Vienna*, a certaine tricke of the Popes is diſcouered by admiſſion of the Ieſuites and Prieſts into *Poland*, *Hungary*, and *Germany*: whereby *Saxony* was poyſoned with the infections of Popery: as diuers other Prouinces. Laſt of all, The Inquiſitors and Catholike Biſhops grew ſo preſumptuous of their papall authoritie, and potent adherents, that they began to tyrannizr ouer the Proteſtants. And when *Mathias* had ouercome the iealouſie betweene his Brother and himſelfe, whereby he was inueſted King of *Hungary* in *Rodulphus* life time, and within a while after abſolute Emperour; they fell from threatnings to bloudy executions, not ſparing the liues of men, women and children; nor deſiſting from opening the graues of the reuerend

defunct, and burning their bones; yea the variety of tortures, and exasperating displeasures was so forcible: that all sortes exclamed on their cossening peace and prosperitie: confessing, warre was rather a blessing unto them.

Shall I follow now with *Bohemias* story their distastings of *Mathias* government, the repinings at the inauguration of his cousin *Ferdinand*, now Emperour; their resolution to reduct the government to electiue Suffrages, their apprehension of the *Palsgraves* worthinesse, their presumption of *Englands* coadjutemēt, and at last their raising of severall forces vnder the government of the Protectors of *Prague*: in all which, *warre was a blessing* indeed, and the dissimuled peace of the Provinces with the confederate Princes tripped downe (as it were) the standing or rather staggering glorie of *Bohemias* proceedings. For while *Englands* embacies and slender preparations made *Vienna* smile at the protraction, *Bauaria* enters the *Palatinate* on the East, *Leopoldus* of *Elsac Saueren* on the South, and *Spinola* with *Gonzales de Cordua* on the North: yea before the reuo't and taking of *Prague*, the mystery of warre was not searched, and the hope of peace ouerelouded King *Frederick* good parts with parcemonie and neglect of execution of discipline, whereby the Citie of *Prague* grew factious, and the inhabitants suspected themselues, yea were angrie with their former iudgements, that had elected a man, who staggered in his opinion betweene peace and warre, and committed a great solleciſme in State, as leauing his country vnfurnished, and *Heidelberg* in a manner vnfortified; when yet there was nothing but

but warre, either to ſupport him ſtanding ſtill, or further him aduancing forward. But there is no reuiuing of fearfull accidents, and vnſauory contingents to deiected Princes. Yet come to *Mansfields* coming into the *Palatinate*, and Prince *Fredericks* returne with *Brunſwicks* heroike and noble oppoſition: all the while the armies lay watching one another, there was hope of recouery, and the enemy ſeemed ſo farre from inſulting, that he feared their incurſions into his owne countrey of *Bauaria*. Yea *Vienna* knew not what to ſay to the dangers threatning her triumphs: and although the ſouldiers played the fiery meteors on euery ſide with miſchiefe and terror, with afflicting the townes, with exacting diſburſements, and other inconueniences of a cruell miſery, yet did the warre keep *Bauaria*, *Tilley*, *Leopoldus*, and the Catholike Biſhops in awe, and might haue procured a bleſſing to the much humbled Prince *Palatine*, if the Fox had not brought the Lion into a trance, or if you will, a labourinth. For no ſooner were the armies recalled, and the Princes remoued, but *Bauaria* for himſelfe, and *Tilley* for *Bauaria* ranne in fury to extinguiſh his brand of light, and put out the glory of the *Palatine*. So that I may well conclude, *warre was a bleſſing*; and the diſſemblings of peace haue with *Iacobs* ſubtiltie preuented *Eſau* from *Iſacks* benediction, who once thought it meete that the firſt borne ſhould haue the preheminence of being fortunate. And thus for *Germany*.

Shall we ſtep into *France*, and that with eaſie paces, to take the better ſuruey of thoſe times and actions. Beleeue it then, the crueltie of perſecution and variety

of turmoiles haue dragged Religion by the haire, and brought her out as forlorne and contemptible before the people, of purpoſe to ſtone her, as if *Suſanna* had committed folly in Iſrael: but thoſe eyes that burned with reuenge, vpon her approued innocencie were turned to compaſſion; thoſe hearts which murmured at her hypocriſie, were leniated with a more iuſtifiable triable; and thoſe hands which had ſtones ready to daſh out her braines, returned them vpon her accuſers, and made them repent the warres, and curſe *Spaine*, whoſe trechery and ambition onely weakned *France* by inteſtine combuſtions, that *France* might not weaken *Spaine* by publicke hoſtilitie.

I will not deale with the French inventory, nor make the long ſhadowes of ſtory make you beleeue, there is ſome ill lucke behinde you: but that you may ſee how many worthy men have taken vp perſpectives, to ſhew the true harted French man a far off, upon ſurmiſes of *Spaines* coadjutement, or augmentation of his owne territories. For the Spaniards would ſerve him, as they once did the Duke of *Calabria* againſt *Charles* the fift, to forſake him in his extremitie. And when *Francis* the firſt ſent an army to recover *Nauarre*, and *Fonterabу* upon Spaniſh inſtigation, in the tumultuous times of divers inſurrections in *Arragon* and *Caſtile*, the troubles were ſoone appeaſed, and the French driven out of the Land.

But let vs come to the tripping Pheries of all times, whereby Princes are ſeduced to flattery and priuate reſpect; How hath *Spaine* delt with all Kings and their Minions, ever ſince the Duke of

of *Guiſes* tyrannous Maſſacree at *Vaſſi*, and that unfortunate marriage of *Navarre*, and the cunning baites of the King of *Spaines* Penſioners in the Court of *France*: which I am afraid are ſtill ſo venemous to all Nations, that they will corrupt the ſoundeſt hearts, let there be never ſo great pollicy or conveniency at their admiſſion. What ſay you to the houſe of *Loraine*, the Cardinall, and Dukes of *Guiſe*? What thinke you of the Duke *De Maine*, and the Holy League? Shall I name *Heſpernon*, and the advancing of his Family? Shall I recount the feareſull ſtory of *Birone*? The life and death of the Marquis *De Ancre*. The falls of *Luiſnes* and *Cadinet* his Brother; With divers other, whoſe lives made *France* afraid: and actions were ſo many tortures to the hearts of ſollid Chriſtians, and loyall Proteſtants. Were not all theſe the inſtruments of *Spaines*, to keep *France* buſied at home: though fortune geered at the temerarious proceedings of the Princes againſt their owne ſubjects, and divert the ſeverall Kings from looking toward *Navarre*, *Millane*, *Naples*, the ſuccoring of the *Switzers*, *Grizons*, and thoſe territories: yea if you will, the patronizing of the *Palatinate* it ſelfe: which was once under the covert of the *French* confedracy. Thus hath the cannon battered their owne townes, and the miſled Kings unſheathed their owne ſwords of vengeance, to ſheath them in the bowells of naturall and loyall ſubjects; wherein yet they have prevailed no further, then to increaſe an internall hate and jealouſie againſt *Rome*, *Spaine*, the Inquiſition, Ieſuites, Prieſts, and all the rablement of Locuſts, who like vermine in a ſtanding ſtincking

water

water, infect the aire with fulſome and ill vapours.

If you reade the life of *Henry* the fourth, you ſhall ſee how famous were his actions, and remarkeable his renowne all the while the warres laſted, inſomuch that the attribute of greatneſſe was made a Trophe of his everlaſting fame: and yet ſtood like an impregnable rocke, againſt which the waues did ruſh impetuouſly, but to the breaking of themſelues in peeces; but when peace was contracted, his honour was diſtracted, his Countrey defiled, his Townes vitiated, his faith violated, his Preachers ſhed teares, and *Molines* wept over him for temporizing: his great officer *Biron* fell into the ſnare of perfidiouſneſſe, the Proteſtants hung their heads for his luke-warmeneſſe, the Papiſts gnaſhed their teeth for his pollices, the newters feared him, the Atheiſts abhored him, his Wife diſſembled, and an *Italian* vpſtart contrived his deſtruction: as for his Sonne and his unlimited youthfulneſſe, that muſt needs caſt a chain over the necks of *Rochell*, *Monpelier*, *Montalbon*, *Niſmes*, *Chartres*, and other Proteſtants Provinces and townes; what did thoſe attemps beget but the faire birth of increaſe of religion, and firme oppoſition againſt unprincely cruelty, and unnaturall enforcement? and he went away affrighted at his owne handiworke, and curſing the motives and ſetters on of his preſumption: which abated his malice, and taught him to know there was a God aboue princes, which could make the warre as a bleſſing to propagate trve Religion, and augment the glory of the Church. So that I may well ſay, that peace to *France* proved like the Aſpes of *Ethiopea*,

opea, who doe not ſting at all, but by licking and tickling breake their bladders of poyſon, which from itches grow to ranckle the fleſh, til at laſt it exæſtuates and by burning heates proves incurable. Why then ſhould we be afraid of warre; or for any cauſe temporize with Gods enemies, and a dangerous Nation: for whoſe ſake we have ſuffered the *Palatinate* to be loſt, and ſeene a Noble Prince dejected, as if we were glad, that by ſuch courſes there ſhould no enuy be raiſed for his thriving in greatneſſe, or going to faſt in his race of Soveraignitie and powerfull Majeſty. But I dare ſay that the Angel did curſſe *Meros* for not aſſiſting of Iſrael.

Concerning the Low Countries, I cannot compare them better, then to Camomile, which the more it is troden, the more it ſpringeth. For whether warre hath been a bleſſing unto them, iudge your ſelues, conſidering they haue augmented their fame and renown abroad, and increaſed their wealth and territories at home. Abroad, the Weſt Indies haue been frequented with their Navies; and the ſtormes at ſeas are not ſo formidable to the mariners, as their approches to the *Spaniard*; inſomuch that his plate Fleets are many times detained in harbour from their ordinary courſes, to the diſappointing of his Garriſons in *Europe*, which hath cauſed many mutinies and innouations amongſt the ſouldiers. The Eaſt Indies haue been viſited by them, and ſo viſited, that they haue planted Colonies in the Ilands in deſpight of oppoſition; they haue dared the *Portingals*, and ouertopped the *Engliſh*; their ſhips exceed in number, and their Merchants in induſtrie and huſbandry:

their labours haue made way vnto continual thriuing; and the ſeuerall Kings of the nations haue reputed them greater then the *Engliſh*. The *Philippines* and *Molunes* haue been ſearched by them, and neither Iland nor harbour but reioyced at their trade and traffique. The South ſeas with the ſtreights of *Magellane* haue been adventured on, and their voyages ſet the pens of learned Chronologers on worke. Both the *Guineies* and the coaſts of *Afrik* are explored by them; and if there be no more in the ſatisfaction of expectation, then knowledge, experience, and augmentation of wealth: they attained to all by their nauall encounters and adventures. The *Leuant* is ſtored with their ſhippes, and the Streights of *Gibraſter* are not ſo ſtraight, but in their defiances with *Spaine* they ruſhed them open to giue them paſſage: ſo that both *Turkey* and *Italy* haue admitted their factories, and opened the lapps of their plenty, to bid them take the bleſſings by ſhippes full. If you ſtep into *France*, you ſhall finde, they not onely ſtepped thether, but viſited every towne of importance, yeelding an honeſt account of their traueles. What thinke you of the fiſhing in *Newland*, of Whales in *Greeneland*, of the commodities of *Iſland*, *Freezland*, of the Herings of *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *England*, of the coaſts of *America*, and all thoſe Nations which are acceſſable, yeelding either pleaſure or profit, they haue euery where ſuckt the hony with the Bee, and extended their trauaile with the Ant, ſo that the ſummers labour hath fed and cloathed them in winter, and the winter it ſelfe never had ſuch fearefull blaſts, but the winde either breathed good vpon them, or draue them to

ſeeke

ſeeke it in all the corners of the earth. If you are not afraid of the Eaſterne violence and mountanous ice of *Ruſsia*, you ſhall finde that they are not afraid of winters ſnow, nor ſummers contagion: but viſit *Norway*, *Sweden*, *Goteland*, the ſound of *Denmarke*, the *Hans* Townes, *Pruſsia*, *Poland*, *Muſcouia*, and all maritime coaſtes; Inſomuch, that like the honeſt explorators of the land of *Canaan*, they not onely returne with cluſters of grapes, but continue undaunted. So that I may well ſay, warre hath beene a bleſſing unto them, and the God of all bleſſings hath multiplied *Iſrael* euen vnder their grieuances.

But now if they kindly let you within their doores, you will be amazed at the furniture of their houſes: I meane the ſucceſſe of their affaires, and the noble proceedings of the warres, which hath made them famous in the ſucceſſe, and left their honeſt defences exemplary to all poſterity. They haue expulſed the *Spaniard* out of *Zealand*, & *Holland*, and as it were exprobrated great Princes for not being content to inſult ouer the obedienc of their ſubjects, but they muſt tyranize their ſoules, either by Inquiſition or change of religion; is it any other then the working of ſlumbring patience, which being abuſed turneth to fury & diſobedience; They haue not onely preſerued their virgin prouinces from the rauiſhings of *Burgundy*, but reuenged the vſurpation, which challenged their captiuitie by hereditary birthright: yea, beſides their owne ordinary walkes to viſit *Vtreck*, *Gelderland*, and many fortified Townes, they haue made larger ſteps vpon their enemies Countries, and by maine force ſhouldred open the Caſtillian gates, and throwne

the Portcullis on the ground which boasted of *Austrias* fasting, and the Popes Benediction; so they entred *Hamlers*, and still keepe *Sluice* and the adiacent places to depend vpon their garrisons; they possesse *Breda*; diuers *bergens* the fort of *Lilla*: and aboue 20 forts and fortresses in *Brabant*. What haue they done in *Cleue*, *Munster*, *Westphalia*, the Land of *Luke*, and those places of *Freezland*, wherein the *Spaniards* are now politicke intruders?

For what Papist or Hispanolized temporiser, can yeeld an account of any thriuing action, or preuailing successe against them these 30 yeares; yet the Pope curseth and excommunicateth, the Emperor threats, the Archdutches proscribes them, *Spaine* assembles armies, the Iesuites coniure, the Priests imposture: and all the practises which pollicies, mightinesse, treasure, or friends haue hatched and brought forth, was but to amaze them with some monstrous birth of treason, and perfidious reuenge; yea, those strange hindrances of diuers reuolts and couert supplantations, haue proued their owne shame.

Thus by the corruption of Spanish rewards, haue diuers English themselues proued traitors to *Holland*, and onely abused their honors and loyalty by such inconstancy: which yet ended with *Spaines* scornes, and their Countries eternall hate and banishment. Yet for all this haue the *Low Countries* thriued by such exasperating difficulties, and the following warrs haue beene a blessing vnto them: insomuch that the Spaniard hath not onely admired theirs, and *Englands* happy estate: but blasphemed heauen, to suppose we had a pulling hooke to bring prosperity

vnto

vnto vs.

In the time of *Don Lewis Requeſcens*, Commander and Captaine Generall for the King of *Spaine*, by the exciting of diuers Prieſts, certaine Engliſh reuolted: which added life to the Spaniſh affaires. After this *Ægremont*, *Ratcliſe*, *Grey*, and ſome others, Gentlemen of Noble Families in *England*, went from the *Low Countries*, and fell into the ſeruice of *Spaine*, as if they had fallen into a deuouring graue. At the ſiege of *Audenard*, 600 Engliſh vnder *Norris*, *Barney*, *Corniſh*, and *Gipſon*, proued traytors to the States, and violated their firſt alleageance, to be afterward abuſed by them which ſet them on worke. *Aloſt* was betrayed to the King of *Spaine* by a whole Regiment of Engliſh, ouer whom *Pigot* commanded, who with the aſſociation of *Dalton*, *Tailor*, *Vincent*, *Smith*, and *Weiſh*, thought to pull away the ſtones of the high built walles of the *Low Countries* bulwarks. In my Lord of *Leiceſters* time, *Deuenter* and *Zutphen* were deliuered to *Stanley* and *Yorke* in the Queenes name, who in the diuels name redeliuered them to *Spaine*. *Grane* was betrayed by *Hermet* the Gouernour. *Venlo* ſold by the Burghers, before the enemy approached. *Newis* loſt by treachery. *Berek* beſieged, and ſo abandoned. And many other places and perſons left the ſeruice of the States, to ſtate themſelues in the King of *Spaines* intertainment. Yea by perfidious practiſes another Regiment vnder Sir *William Stanley*, whoſe Captaines were *Scurlock*, *Peter Winn*, *Hart*, *Guin*, *Salſbury*, *Eaton*, *Reignolds*, and *Hariſon*, forſooke their firſt faith, and flattered themſelues with the hope of great treaſures of *Spaines Indies*. I could alſo name

the failing and falling away from *Englands* loue, and the *Low Countrey* embraces of the Earle of *Westmerland*, Lord *Paget*, *Charles Paget*, Sir *Francis Englefield*, *Hugh Owen*, *Dakers*, *Tempest*, *Norton*, *Harman*, *Markenfield*, *Tremaine*, *Stradling*, *Carew*, *Allen*, *Southwell*, *Fleming*, *Bulmer*, with diuers others, whose reuoults might haue been great discouragments to the States. But for all this, they proued like the women of *Israel*, strong and quicke in their trauell, and doe what *Pharoah* could, they multiplied exceedingly: and God built the Midwiues houses for being honest to his people.

I haue not I protest cited these particulars by way of renouation of displeasure, and distasting betweene the Dutch and vs: but meerely to show the error of inconstancy, and the vanity of dispairing men, who by ouerprising *Spaines* potency, distrusted the *Low Countries* weakenesse, or dazeled with a mist cast before their eyes, or led on by wicked angells, mistooke shadowes for substances, and thought to repaire their decayed estates, by repairing to a Prince, whose petty officers laughed them to scorne, and in their greatest extremities saw them die in the streets without compassion: as for religion, it was a poore shift, and idle motiue to forsake the pure streames and cleane waters, by the reason of the coldnesse and asperous quickenesse, to fall into the pudled durt of Atheisme, superstition, and corruption; what is this but with Swines to wallow in the mire, and lie basking in filthy puddles, and besmeering tromperies. But was it thus with Souldiers in those dayes, and men of fiery spirits? I pray God it be not so still with

with

with effæminate Courtiers, and temporizing officers, who to maintaine their owne greatneſſe and glory, wiſh *Nehemiah* to flie from his enemies, when they intended onely his ſhame and diſgrace, and proiected their owne ſupportation by taking part with *Sandolet* and *Tobiah*: by flattering and extolling the great King: by preſuming on penſions, honour, and glorification from the idolatrous Monarcks of *Perſia*.

But to proceede, ſhall I recount the ſeuerall tragedies of *Antwerpe*. Firſt, Vnder the Regency of Lady *Marget*, Dutches of *Parma*. Next, At the comming downe of the Duke of *Alua*, whoſe tyranous pride might haue ſtartled and amazed a greater State, then the Gouernment of the States. Thirdly, *Afuerca Villacos* by the Spaniſh Souldiers for want of pay vnder *Don Lewis de Requeſcens*. Fourthly, Another mutiny vpon the death of *Don Lewis*, during the authority of the Kings Councell. Fiftly, The inuaſion of the French, and the valiant reſiſtance of the inhabitants. Laſt of all, The tedious ſiege of *Alexander Ferneſe* Prince of *Parma*, with the yeelding of the Towne by reaſon of famine, and wretched extremity which they endured. Shall I conclude with other petty treaſons, and practiſes of murthers vpon the perſons of *William* of *Naſſaw*, Prince of *Orenge*. The innouations and rebellions of *Leiden*, *Vtrech*, and other Townes. The murthers of Counts *Egmond* and *Horne*; and at laſt the Prince of *Orenge* himſelfe; the ſundry conſpiracies againſt *Mauritius*, and his Brother Graue *Henry*; the *Armenian* ſect; the pollicies of *Barneuelt*, and the proiects of his faction, with his Children, to be reuenged for their Fathers death;

the

the ſtill ſupplying of the Archdutches Armey with diſcontented Engliſh and Iriſh, vnder pretence of aſſiſting friends: hope of extraordinary ſalury, affecting the Catholicke religion, diffidence of our Countries abillity, ſuppoſition of *Spaines* greatneſſe: with other by cauſes; in all which, and through all which common reaſon and enforcements of policy, would affright the naturall man; and make the *Low Countries* ſtand amazed at there enemies threatnings, and proſpering in the peace of their neighbour kings; yea we in *England* that behold the menaces and mightineſſe of *Auſtrian* Family, to mount like the billowes of the ocean, and with a kinde of inundation, to keep ſo many Countries vnder water: may tremble againe to thinke how ſlender a Nation ſhould beare a head againſt the impetuous aſſaults of the warres.

Yet for all this, experience goes beyond precept, and examples ouercome poſitions. For if we may apply a ſentence of diuinity to worldly affaires; as there is no comming to heauen with dry eyes, or with out the endurance of affliction in this world. So hath the glory of the States beene raiſed out of difficultie; and as wee ſee a radiant ſunne diſpell miſty vapours, and foggy exhalations. So hath the warres wiped away all thoſe impediments of the *Low Countries*: and their conſtancy in religion, made religion to floriſh.

So that if the Mines of gold by the ſearches and induſtry of men, affood their ore, and plenty through the vnbowelling of the earth, and making warres (as it were) vnder ground; The *Low Countries* haue raiſed their fame, and amaſſed their treaſure by oppoſition

position to *Spaine*, and warre with *Austria*, telling him to his face with the vision: there is no kicking against the pricke; and that goes about to graspe too much, will at last reserue nothing.

So that I may well say it, and I thinke none can deny it, that warre was, and is a blessing to the *Low Countries*.

In the remarkeable greatnesse, and admirable raigne of Queene *Elizabeth*: may I not say, that *Warre was a blessing*, when all Nations were blessed by her; The rebellions of *Sweden* appeased; The Protestants of *Germany* releiued; The pride of *Poland* abated; The passages of *Switzerland* defended; The holy league in *France* counter-checked; *Henry* the 4 assisted; The *Low Countries* in a maner made high with honor; The Spanish Armado dissipated; The intrusions and rebellions of *Ireland* annihilated; The rages of many treasons confounded: and the practises of 22 murthers vpon her person frustrated; As if the Angell of the Lord should stay *Abrahams* sword from killing of *Isack*. Yea a very Italian writes of her: that she grew to such greatnesse, and was so garded about with the loue and obseruation of her subiects, that all the world admired, and exalted her.

Obserue the noble Voyages and explorations of her time, by *Ienkinson*, *Boroz*, *Forbisher*, *Haukins*, *Drake*, *Fenner*, *Grenuilde*, *Candish*, *Michelborn*, *Raleigh*, and diuers others: the braue actions and exploits of our Nation, the sollid and pious renowne of her gouernment: did we not search all the harbors of the world, and made English Merchants and Aduentures deserue a character of renowne? did not our inferior

ſhips ſcorne the Spaniſh gallies and galeons, yea, thruſt open the Streights to paſſe into the Arche? did not we viſit *India* without the tricke of factory, or exportation of money? did we not ſearch the South ſeas, and paſſed the Srieghts of *Magellane*? did not *Michelborne* and others bring Spice out of *India* without paying for it; *Candiſh* Silkes without bleeding for it; *Drake* Bullion without digging for it? did not our Engliſh ſurprize the Towne of *Santus*, and Saint *Sebaſtian* in *Brazile*? did not *Raleigh* begin a plantation in *Guiana*, and made his very name odious to the Spaniard? did not our Merchants imploy many braue ſea men, who returned with great booty, and prizes of all ſorts? did not *Eſſex* knock at the gates of *Lisbone*, in the behalfe of *Don Anthonio* King of *Portugall*? did not a ſlender Nauy and vnprouided, ouercome that inuincible Fleete of *Spaine*? was not *Ireland* reduced, when it lay ſicke of a conſumption by *Montioies* fortitude, fortune, and patience? was not *Cales* made our owne, and *Ciuill* it ſelfe affrighted with our approches? was not *Spaine* and all Spaniſh actions like vnfethered ſhafts, which could not flie to any purpoſe. And though in the Iland Voyage, Fortune ſeemed to giue Vertue the check; yet it was a braue attempt, worthy of memory and Illuſtration. Remember the batteries of *Roane*, and the beſieging of *Paris*; the many exploits and Marches of our Souldiers, the admiration of our Kingdome, and vnmatchable glory of our Queene; all which proceeded from the warres, and the Heroick ſpirit of a woman. Whoſe vertue proued like an Vberant ſpring, the more plentifull and ſweeter by agitation and extracting

tracting. Yea, her Countries was made famous, and illustrious to forreigne Nations, by the endurances of her Gentlemen and Souldiers.

I haue not breath enough to tell the rest, but for these and the rest I will be bold to say, we were beholding to the warres and such Martiall spirits: who tooke example from ancient Patriots, to be indulgent ouer their Countries renowne and enriching: and yet withal was ioyned the glory of God, the Princes honour, the Kingdomes prosperity, and their owne increases of nobleneſſe, and generolity.

But what hath the peace done? it hath made vs drunke with ease and careleſneſſe, forget our God, be vncharitable to our neighbours, neglect our calling, sleepe in security, accustome our selues to fooliſh exerciſes, and by studying euery man for his priuate, the whole kingdome is confounded with pouerty and wretchedneſſe; insomuch, that the complaints fly about like flies; and pollicy is ashamed of her own fallacies: for you see it hath inuented a trick by factory, and drawne diuers worthy men into the net of couetuouſneſſe, to aduenture the *Indies*: when I must say it, the very exhausting of our treasure will be the diſcomfort of our soules, I inſiſt not vpon the remoteneſſe of the place, loſſe of shipps, decay of men, abuſe of time, vnwholeſomneſſe of women, danger of shipwracks, and the want of our account in our owne channells, things subiect to fearefull conſtruction, and senſible to examination: but say plainly, that the bringing in of a million of commodities, is not, or cannot be so beneficiall, as the exportation of 300001. sterling a yeare (beſides the conueniency

at many greater ſummes) is preiudiciall to the Com-mon-wealth : a great diſparity I confeſſe, but expe-rience goes beyond apprehenſion. For it is well knowne, that *Henry* 8. from one of the richeſt and mightieſt Kings, became the diſcontenteſt and meerly indigent to the turmoile of the ſubiect, by reaſon of the ranſome of Pope *Clement*, ſo fooliſhly and trecherouſly ſent out of *England*. And in for-mer dayes was not the wealth of this Land almoſt in the hands of the Romaniſts, and how poore were our people by reaſon of *Peter* pence paid vnto *Rome*. Looke into the ſtory of *Salomon*, you ſhall reade of great ſtore of gold brought into the Land, but neuer any ſent out, or permitted to be tranſported : onely commoditie for commoditie, or neceſſaries for their gold and ſiluer in ſuch Countries as wanted them. As for their obiections, or coſſenning their owne hearts, that ſay, *England* hath no gold growing, and therefore we may ſpare a little of a great deale which is brought in ; I anſwer, that becauſe *England* was ſometimes barbarous, full of boggs, woods, and a wilderneſſe for beaſts: therefore it matters not to haue braue Cities, a reduction to ciuillity, and an extraordinary beauty of Magnificenſe and glory: we ſhould be no worſe then we were before; I hope ſuch arguing is weake, poore, and full of moroſity: ſeeing all the Maieſtie of *Europe* receiues exornation from the various commodities of other Countries, whom it hath pleaſed God to deny the vſe of his creatures, that they might ſerue ſuch as ſerue him in holineſſe and righteouſneſſe. And then ſhall *Iſaak* ſow in the Land of *Abimelech*, and receiue a hundreth for

for one. But to our peace againe.

Now since our peace, what hath that done to vs, or we done to ourselues? hath it not proued our sicknesse, and wrought vpon our corrupt bodies like a feuer, not onely obnoxions in it selfe, but bringing on apace other diseases. And haue not we taken a libertie to sinne, because no punishment followed suddenly. But hearken how the vengeance of God comes vpon vs: the cry goes, the countrey is weighed, and found lighter by 14 Millions in 15 yeares; we are haunted with Beggers, vndone in our Trades, pestred in the prisons, the Common-wealth ouerrunne with pouerty, the people cry out of misery, and feare and terrors make vs all amazed, insomuch that in many Countrey Townes, such idle, lasie, discontented vagabonds abound, that the inhabitants are affraid of spoiles and rapes, euen in the face of Iustice: that is, though there be officers to threaten them; so that if it were not for forreigne plantations, and compulsiue sending some people away, we might deuoure one another. But marke withall, to what inconueniences we are driuen in our cheefest Cities, there are so many of all Trades, who confound one another by vnderworke and indirect abuses, that the welthy are made poore, and the poore in a maner labour for nothing: besides, young men are growne so proude and lauering of liberty, that they must be house-keepers the first hower, and consume themselues with comparatiue expences to their superiors: filling their houses with children, and the Common-wealth with bancke-routs; so that there is no preuenting of these mischiefes but warre, warre must

cure this ſore, which if we looke to in time, we may finde remedie with eaſe: either by disburthening the Common wealth of vnneceſſary people, or enriching the Common-wealth with ſurpriſalls vnlookt for.

Let vs then reſolutely aſſiſt the Dutch, they and we are all one, good neighbours and friends: and ſo no doubt *France* will come in: and then a three fold cable will be very ſtrong; otherwiſe, who would not condemne his negligence that ſtandeth ſtill, while his neighbours houſe is on a blaſe. But if we now take opportunity by her faire foretop, and ioyne heart and hand, wealth and courage, prayers, and preuentions againſt the practiſes of *Spaine*, whoſe very looke diſcouers the pride of his heart: we ſhall finde his treaties are trecheries, his ſpeeches deceit, his deuiſes ſcornes, his heart hollow, his dealings double, and his whole courſe of his proceedings, make but ſo many diſcourſes of abuſes and deceit; In a word, they are the great diſſemblers of the world; but let vs not diſſemble with our ſelues, eſpecially take heed, and prepare againſt them.

Let vs then take a veiw of our Countries, eſpecial- *Ireland* and the Ilands, fortifie our Harbours, repaire our Caſtles, double our Gariſons, Muſter our Souldies, viſit our Nauy, ſtore our armories, countenance the Merchants, ſtrengthen our paſſages, diſarme our Papiſts, change their dwellings, diſſolue their meetings, breake the knot of their factions, watch their wayes, and diſcouer the villany of their darke lanternes: ſo ſhal their inſulting pride and trecherous hearts be kept vnder, and all the reſt be ſure and ſafe againe from home diſturbances. But yet this is nothing

thing, except you baniſh the Prieſts, hang vp the Ieſuites, impriſon the falſe hearted, and preuent the diſcontented Hiſpanolized faction; ſo ſhall we be ſure of them from annoying of vs, that would elſe make vs ſure from defending our ſelues.

Let vs with the *Belgick Souldier* alwayes be in a readineſſe, keepe good watch and ward, ſtand vpon our guards, and looke to our charge, the King, the Prince, the State, the Church, the Common-wealth is our charge: yea, our Neighbours are our charge, whoſe Countries haue beene lately ouerrun, their Villages deſtroyed, their houſes burnt, their Cattle pilledged, their Wiues deflowered, their Daughters rauiſhed, their Infants brained, their Children ſtarued, and their Husbands taken priſoners; and thus while they haue (I meane their enemies and ours the *Spaniards*) beene treating a peace and contract with vs, they haue eſtabliſhed a warre againſt them: and ſo by degrees will at laſt ſet vpon vs, if we prepare not to ſet vpon them.

Looke ouer ſtories, and peruſe them with iudgement, and you ſhall find that *Spaine* hath ouer reached all Nations with treaties, becauſe he found himſelfe to weake to deale with actiue imployment; ſo that his greatneſſe hath beene the well ſpring and head of all miſchiefe, the foundation and ground of *Europes* troubles, and the meere author and proiector of Religions ruine; I will goe no further then 88, while we were treating of a peace, the Armado comes vpon vs; while *France* lookes for a pacification of troubles, the Ieſuites inuite the King to a bloudy warre.

While

While we are ſending to the Emperor for a reſtitution of the *Palatinate*, *Bauaria* enters, and is not onely Lord of the Countrey, but made the Electorate. In 23 he treats of a match in ſigne of loue, but prepares powder and match as effect of his mallice. In a word, we muſt looke about vs to ouermatch this match, and ſo no doubt euery true Engliſh heart will affoord his helping hand, heart, purſe, prayers, and all he hath to ouerthrow the boaſting pride of this running enemy, and teach him a new leſſon for his great ambition, and forward preſumption.

As for me an old *Belgick* Souldier, I will pray from my heart, with ſorrow in my ſoule, and ſadneſſe from my conſcience, with a liuely ſpirit, and paſſionate affection that my King, Prince, and natiue Country: that all may ioyntly conforme themſelues to the faſhioning a worke, which may tell the Princes of *Europe*: how patiences abuſed, turnes to fury; and the King of Great *Brittaine* is not a ſubiect for Spaniſh ſcornes and indignities. Me thinkes I heare his Maieſtie ſay, you haue my good will: the Prince crys out, take my true heart with you: the Councell warrant their iudicious conſent, the Clergy aſſure their vnfained prayers, the Nobillity and Gentry propoſe their reuinues, the Countryman expoſe his body, the Cittizen proffer his wealth, the Merchant yeeld his wares, the Drum ready to beate, the Trumpet ready to ſound, the Horſe furniſhed: and all ſorts are ready with their beſt endeuours, except Hiſpanolized Papiſts, and temporizing couetuous wretches.

What then doe we ſtay for? but prouide our treaſure,

ſure, prepare our armes, reconcile our hearts, and pray to God, that we may be ſtrong enough with *Abraham* againſt the fiue Kings, to recouer his Brother *Lots* ſubſtance. And ſo may we gaine and regaine what hath beene loſt: and by an honeſt and iuſtifiable warre repaire all our ruines and damages, ouerworking and ouerweying vs by a diſſembling peace.

To conclude, the *Belgick Souldier* once againe intreates the reuerent Biſhops and Clergy to prepare their prayers, the Senate of wiſe men their councell, the Nobles and Gentry their courages, the true Courtiers their loyalty, the commonalty their armes and prouiſion, the Merchants their Shipping, the Cittizens their meanes, and the very Vſurers their money; That euery one may be ready with the *Machabes* to defend the Sanctuary of the Lord; And with true Engliſh hearts, not onely fight in the defence of their Countrey, but when God commands, not to ſpare, to goe on and prepare, and let euery one prepare himſelfe; For the *Belgick Souldier* is prepared, and made ready to goe to the battell. And the God of heauen prepare your hearts, wayes, words, deeds, and dealings, to be vigilant and carefull to prouide for vs: and we with Gods helpe, will be carefull to fight for you. And ſo the God of heauen Fight for vs all.

A Prayer.

O Lord, glorious God, and euerlaſting Father, we intreate thee mercifully to looke downe vpon vs, and hearken to our complaint and deſires, and grant we beſeech thee our requeſt; O gracious Father

Thou knoweſt our ſinnes, and our iniquities are not hid from thee, they lie open to thy iudgements: yet we know that thy mercies are the cure of our miſeries, and when we flie to thee, thou draweſt neere to vs; we beſeech thee now to be fauorable, and ſpare vs for all our ſinnes paſt, and be ready to deliuer vs from ſinnes to come; looke down in mercy vpon vs, and as thou haſt beene our euerlaſting defence, ſo now defend vs from the rage of our Enemies. Go in and out O Lord before our Armies, before our Generall, and grant we may be thy Souldiers, to fight vnder thy banner: ſtirre vp our hearts and ſtrength againſt the enemy; defend thy afflicted flocke; Remember we beſeech thee the burden of miſery layd vpon the Church at this time in Germany, *and in thy due time reſtore it to his former glory: ſettle our hearts and affections to regaine and recouer that which hath beene loſt by their treacheries: and now we ſee their double dealing, grant we may no longer truſt to them which haue no truth, they imagine miſchiefe in their heart, and are ſet on fire to doe ill; but break thou the knot of their malice, lay open their plots, diſcouer their deuiſes, weaken their Armies, and ouerthrow their inuentions, confound their councells, and conſume their numbers. O Lord thou haſt in times paſt made the Starres to fight in order, the Sunne to ſtand ſtill, the Seas to deuoure, the Winds to ouerthrow thy enemies; ſo now O Lord prepare theſe thy creatures to aſſiſt and helpe vs, that all the world may know it is thou that fighteſt our battailes. Finally, O Lord bleſſe we beſeech thee vs, and euery one of vs, in what we ſhall take in hand for defence of thy Church. Bleſſe we intreate our King, our Prince, our State, our Clergey, our Commonalty, and giue thy bleſſing vnto vs all. And laſt of all, bleſſe we beſeech thee all that*

that worthy and excellent Companies of the Artillery, and Military exercises in London, and also in this Land: blesse O Lord we intreat their new inuentions of warre, and make their practises expert, make them skilfull and full of knowledge, that all the world may know that thou conductest our Armies. Grant this deare Father, and all other good things vnto vs, now and for euermore. Amen.

FINIS.